

established Food Processing & Training Centres in rural areas which provide hands on experience in operating and managing a small unit. During 8th Plan, 231 such centres have been extended assistance.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

[English]

High Power Radio Station in A.P.

399. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

- (a) whether a high power radio station is being installed in Mahaboobnagar, Andhra Pradesh; and
- (b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be installed?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scheme is expected to be completed by the end of 9th Five Year Plan.

Misappropriation of Funds

400. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints about misappropriation of funds in the construction of Staff quarters of Sub-divisional office, Telephone Biharsharif, Nalanda (Bihar);

- (b) is so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have taken any action in this regard so far; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No Sir.

- (b) to (d) Question does not arise.

Subsidies to Orissa Under I.R.D.P.

401. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any loans and subsidies under Integrated Rural Development Programme are provided to

families living below poverty line in rural and tribal areas, for acquiring income generating assets in Orissa;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of tribals and other families living below poverty line given such loans and subsidies during each of the last three years in Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) assistance is given in the form of subsidy by the Government and loans by the Banks to families living below the poverty line (BPL) for acquiring income generating assets. All the blocks and Districts of Orissa are covered under the programme. The target group of beneficiaries consists of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, small and marginal farmers, rural artisans, and educated unemployed trained rural youth, below the poverty line. The pattern of subsidy is 25% for small farmers, 33-1/3% for marginal farmers, agricultural labourers and rural artisans and 50% for SC/ST beneficiaries, physically handicapped persons, and educated unemployed trained rural youth from BPL families. The ceiling on subsidy is Rs. 4000 in normal areas, Rs. 5000 in DPAP/DDP areas and Rs. 6000 for SC/ST families, and physically handicapped persons and Rs. 7500/- for educated unemployed trained rural youth.

(c) The number of tribals and other families living below poverty line given such loans and subsidies during each of the last three years in Orissa is as below :-

(families in Nos.)

Year	S.T. families	Other families
1994-95	41591	98246
1995-96	35843	84826
1996-97	24474	66775

Drinking Water to Gujarat and Orissa

402. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages provided with safe drinking water facilities in the State of Gujarat and Orissa, till date, district-wise; and

(b) the steps being taken to ensure adequate water supply to the States particularly to Kalahandi, Nuapura, Bolangir and Koraput districts of Orissa and the time by which it is likely to be done ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) As on 31.5.1997, 110023 and 28823 habitations have been covered fully or partially with safe drinking water facilities in the State of Orissa and Gujarat respectively. The district-wise break-up are kept by the State Governments and are not maintained by the Central Government.

(b) All the 'Not Covered' habitations are likely to be provided safe drinking water facilities by 1997-98 and the 'Partially Covered' habitations by 2000 A.D. The State Governments have prepared action plans and are implementing schemes under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme and the Basic Minimum Services. An allocation of Rs. 41.73 crore for Orissa and Rs. 49.87 crore for Gujarat has been made under the ARWSP for 1997-98. 50% of the allocation has been released.

Rural Electrification Programme

403. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the progress in respect of Rural Electrification Programme has been much less in Maharashtra than that in other States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) the number of villages in every district of Maharashtra which are proposed to be brought under this programme during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the amount proposed to be spent on the above programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) No. Sir. Maharashtra State Electricity Board has reported that out of the 39,354 inhabited villages in the State as per 1981 Census, 39,106 villages had been electrified by the end of March, 1989. For the remaining 248 villages Government of Maharashtra has reported that it is not feasible to provide electrification.

(c) and (d) Rural Electrification is a continuous process and the targets for electrification are fixed on an year to year basis. Programme for the 9th Plan is under finalisation by the Planning Commission.

Theft of Software from Delhi Doordarshan

404. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH :

SHRI CHUN CHUN PRASAD YADAV :
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any theft of costly software from Delhi Doordarshan has recently been detected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry to pin point the responsibility for the theft has been made; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) and (b) Hard discs from nine Personal Computers from the newsroom of Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi were found stolen on 31st May, 1997.

(c) and (d) The investigating team of Delhi Police examined the newsroom on the same day and investigations are still in progress.

Task Force on Telecommunication Services

405. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsmitem captioned 'Task Force recommends opening of Telecom Sector' appeared in the Hindustan Times dated June 15, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Task Force has recommended that the Government should have imaginative and far sighted